

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the Paragraph beginning on p. 3, ll. 22 of the specification and insert the following therefor:

-- The present invention will be described with reference to an explanatory duct 10 that comprises an inner tube 14 and a jacket 16. Duct 10 is suitable for being disposed within a channel 20 defined by a paved surface 24 as depicted in Fig. 2. As used herein, paved surface means asphalt, bitumen, concrete, cement, laid stones, bricks, or tiles, expansion joints, combinations thereof, or other similarly suited solid construction material(s) in which the channel is formed therein. In one embodiment, jacket 16 is formed from a material that is compressible over a portion of its longitudinal length so that it forms a friction fit within channel 20 defined by paved surface 24. In other words, a major dimension MD of jacket 16 is sized so that it is deformed and/or compressed when inserted into channel 20. Thus, major dimension MD of an uncompressed duct 10 is sized so that it is larger than a width W of channel 20 as depicted in Fig. 3. Additionally, channel 20 can have any suitable width W such as about 15 mm; however, width W may be larger. Consequently, when duct 10 is placed, i.e., pressed into channel 20, jacket 16 is compressed/deformed to fit within channel 20, thereby creating a friction fit between duct 10 and channel 20 for holding the duct in channel 20. By way of example, major dimension MD of the outer jacket is compressed by about five percent or more when inserted into the respective channel having width W, thereby creating the friction fit. In still other embodiments, duct 10 can have a friction fit with channel 20 without substantial compression or deformation of duct 10. Thereafter, a suitable filling material 42 is placed over duct 10 for filling at least a portion of channel 20. Moreover, a fiber optic installation structure 40 is formed after at least one optical waveguide 12 or fiber optic cable is routed within a

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portion of inner tube 14.--

Please delete the Paragraph beginning on p.6, ll. 28 of the specification and insert the following therefor:

--Other configurations according to the concepts of the present invention are also possible. For instance, Fig. 7 illustrates a duct 10'', which is similar to duct 10. Duct 10'' includes an inner tube 14, at least one wire 18 15, and a jacket 16. In this embodiment, two wires 18 15 are wrapped about inner tube 14 and provide crush and kink resistance to duct 10''. Wires 18 15 can be any suitable material(s) such as conductors such as copper, or copper clad steel or non-conductors such as high-density polyethylene, composite materials, or other suitable materials. In one embodiment, wires 18 15 can be copper wires suitable for carrying electric power along the duct. The copper wires can be bare or include an insulation layer. Additionally, duct 10'' may include an armor layer with the at least one wire being disposed radially inward or radially outward of the armor layer. In other embodiments, the at least one wire can form a portion of a wire mesh about the inner tube. Moreover, other embodiments of the present invention can employ other types of materials about inner tube 14 for improving crush and kink resistance.--